## 10/588404 IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 AUG 2006

Docket No.: 5259-000070/US/NP

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Masaki KITAHARA et al.

Application No.: US National Phase of

PCT/JP2005/018187

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For:

VIDEO ENCODING METHOD AND APPARATUS, VIDEO DECODING METHOD AND APPARATUS, PROGRAMS THEREFOR, AND

STORAGE MEDIA FOR STORING THE

**PROGRAMS** 

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A partial translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S.

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Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 5259-000070/US/NP.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 5259-000070/US/NP from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: August 3, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory A. Stobbs

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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

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	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Named Inventor	Masaki Kitahara	
J				Art Unit	N/A	
	(Use as many she	eets a:	s necessary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	5259-000070/US/NP	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	

		FOREIG	GN PATENT D	OCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	1 <sub>e</sub>
muais		JP-9-261653 A	10-03-1997		<del>                                     </del>	V
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	BE	JP-2000-278715 A	10-06-2000			1
	BF	JP-7-143494 A	06-02-1995			<b>V</b>
	BG	JP-6-98312 A	04-08-1994			1

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. ...

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²
	CA	Hideaki Kimata, Masaki Kitahara, Kazuto Kamikura, Yoshiyuki Yashima, Toshiaki Fujii, and Masayuki Tanimoto, "System Design of Free Viewpoint Video Communication," The Fourth International Conference on Computer and Information Technology 2004 (CIT'04), 14 Sept., 2004, pp. 52-59	N/A
	СВ	Hiroshi FUJIWARA, 'Point Zukaishiki Saishin MPEG Kyokasho', Ascii Corp., 01 August, 1994, pp. 118-119	No
	CC	Hideaki Kimata and Masaki Kitahara, "Preliminary Results on multiple view video coding (3DAV)," document M10976 MPEG Redmond Meeting, July, 2004.	N/A
	CD	T. Fujii, T. Kimoto, M. Tanimoto, "Compression of 3D Space Information based on the Ray Space Representation", 3D Image Conference '96, pp.1-6, July, 1996.	Abs
	CE	T. Kobayashi, T. Fujii, T. Kimoto, M. Tanimoto, "Interpolation of Ray-Space Data by Adaptive Filtering," IS&T/SPIE Electronic Imaging 2000, 2000.	N/A
	CF	M. Kawaura, T. Ishigami, T. Fujii, T. Kimoto, M. Tanimoto, "Efficient Vector Quantization of Epipolar Plane Images of Ray Space By Dividing into Oblique Blocks", Picture Coding Symposium 2001, pp. 203-206, 2001.	N/A

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	
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GAS/dl

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.